

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
registering a client and a service with a broker; and
transmitting, to said broker, at least one attribute by each of the client and the service
tagged for comparison by an internet service provided comparison function,
wherein the at least one attribute of the client differs in data type from the at least one attribute of
the service, and when the at least one attribute of the client and the at least one attribute of the
service have differing contexts, the comparison is made on a case-by-case basis.
2. (Original) The method as in claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting at least one logical comparison operator to said broker.
3. (Original) The method as in claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting a comparison pointer with said attribute tagged for comparison, directing
said broker to a uniform resource identifier (URI) for accessing said internet service provided
comparison function.
4. (Original) The method as in claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting said internet service provided comparison function to said broker.
5. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein said transmitting further comprises
transmitting metadata being at least one of extensible markup language (XML), hypertext
markup language (HTML), text file, and binary.
6. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein said internet service provided
comparison function compares attributes having at least one of varying data types and varying
contexts, and is maintained current.

7. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:
registering with a broker;
transmitting at least one attribute to said broker; and
receiving current comparison results from said broker.
8. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 7, further comprising:
transmitting at least one logical comparison operator to said broker.
9. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 7, wherein said transmitting further comprises
transmitting metadata being at least one of extensible markup language (XML), hypertext
markup language (HTML), text file, and binary.
10. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:
receiving registration descriptions, including at least one attribute from a client;
receiving, from a service, at least one attribute tagged for comparison by an internet
service provided comparison function;
invoking said internet service provided comparison function to perform at least one
comparison of attributes from said client and said attribute tagged; and
providing comparison results to said client.
11. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, further comprising:
receiving at least one logical comparison operator from at least one of said client and said
internet service; and
transmitting said logical comparison operator to said internet service provided
comparison function.
12. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, further comprising
receiving a comparison pointer with said attribute tagged for comparison, directing to a
uniform resource identifier (URI) for accessing said internet service provided comparison
function; and

utilizing said internet service provided comparison function remotely from said broker.

13. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, further comprising:
receiving a comparison pointer with said attribute tagged for comparison, directing to a uniform resource identifier (URI) for accessing said internet service provided comparison function;
downloading said internet service provided comparison function; and
utilizing said internet service provided comparison function locally by said broker.
14. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, further comprising:
receiving said internet service provided comparison function with said attribute tagged for comparison.
15. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, wherein said invoking further comprises transmitting metadata strings to said comparison function.
16. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, wherein said invoking further comprises returning a boolean value indicating one of success and failure of said comparison.
17. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, wherein said receiving attributes further comprises receiving metadata being at least one of extensible markup language (XML), hypertext markup language (HTML), text file, and binary.
18. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 10, wherein said internet service provided comparison function compares an attribute from said client and an attribute from said service having at least one of varying data types and varying contexts, and is maintained current.
19. (Withdrawn) A machine readable medium having instructions which when executed by a machine cause said machine to perform operations comprising:

comparing a client attribute with a service attribute using current instructions updated by a service.

20. (Withdrawn) The machine readable medium as in claim 19, wherein said comparing comprises comparing said client attribute and said service attribute having varying data types.

21. (Withdrawn) The machine readable storage medium as in claim 19, wherein said comparing comprises comparing said client attribute and said service attribute have varying contexts.

22. (Withdrawn) The machine readable medium as in claim 19, wherein said comparing comprises comparing said client attribute and said service attribute at a remote location from a broker

23. (Withdrawn) The machine readable medium as in claim 19, wherein said comparing comprises comparing said client attribute and said service attribute at a location that is local to a broker.

24. (Withdrawn) The machine readable medium as in claim 19, wherein said comparing further comprises considering at least one logical comparison operator provided by at least one of said service and a client.